

over the first 24 hours, fast response as $\Delta\text{MPA} \geq 10\%$ within the first hour after loading (the others being slow responders), and high post-treatment platelet reactivity (HPPR) as $\text{MPA} \geq 56.56\%$ (fourth quartile). Inflammatory markers (PAC1 and P-selectin) and VASP were also evaluated according to onset of action.

Results: 55% of patients were slow responders. Non current smoking and BMI ≥ 25 kg/m² were associated with slower and lower response. HPPR was more frequent in slow responders (28% vs 14% $p < 0.0001$). There was a dose effect relationship on ΔMPA , with a trend for faster onset of platelet inhibition in the 900 mg LD group. Slow responders had slower and lower decrease of PAC1 and P-selectin, and higher VASPindex at 6 hours (76.5% vs 66.4%, $p = 0.019$) and 24 hours (70.3% vs 61.5%, $p = 0.049$).

Conclusions: Slow response to clopidogrel is a reliable marker of low response at 24 hours and HPPR. Whether early detection and correction of slow clopidogrel response is clinically relevant remains to be demonstrated.

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Is it long-term (> 12 months) dual antiplatelet treatment necessary in diabetic patients treated with drug-eluting stents?

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Background: Despite encouraging short-term results with drug-eluting stents (DES) in diabetes mellitus (DM) patients (pts) with coronary artery disease, the long-term safety is not clear. We investigated the influence of long-term (> 12 months) dual antiplatelet treatment (APLT) with aspirin and clopidogrel on clinical outcome in DM pts treated with DES.

Methods: The study included 552 consecutive DM pts (male 81%, mean age 65±9 years) that had been treated with DES and received dual APLT treatment for 12 months. Long-term clinical follow-up (FU) (mean time 30.4 ± 11.6 months), obtained in 545/552 (99%) of them; 419 (77%) pts were on dual APLT (group A) and 126 (23%) on single APLT (group B). Major adverse cardiovascular event (MACE) on clinical FU was considered death (D), myocardial infarction (MI), percutaneous or surgical revascularization (REV), cerebrovascular accident (CVA), and hard end-points (HDP) was considered D, MI and CVA. Late stent thrombosis (LST) was defined as angiographic documentation of stent occlusion associated with an acute ischemic event, unexplained sudden D or MI not clearly attributable to another coronary lesion > 12 months post-procedure.

Results: Unstable angina at presentation was more frequent in group A pts (36% vs. 26%, $p < 0.05$). The incidence of LST was 2.1% in group A and 0.8% in group B pts (p:ns); no difference was observed according to diabetic treatment (insulin vs. non-insulin dependent). At FU D was observed in 4.8% vs. 2.4%, MI 1.9% vs. 0.8%, and HDP in 8.4% vs. 4% between pts in group A and B respectively (p:ns). The rate of any REV and MACE was higher in pts in group A (20.3% vs. 6.3 %, and 26.7% vs. 11.1%, $p < 0.001$); this difference was only observed in non-insulin-dependent pts. In a multivariate model ejection fraction <40% was predictor for LST (HR 14.5, 95% CI 3.9-49.4, $p < 0.001$), and D/MI (HR 3.61, 95% CI 1.7-7.5, $p = 0.001$), and multivessel disease for MACE (HR 2.0, 95% CI 1.27-3.15, $p = 0.003$).

Conclusion: Dual APLT > 12 months in DM pts treated with DES implantation is not associated with better clinical outcome or lower risk of LST.

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Percutaneous coronary intervention of unprotected left main coronary artery for cardiogenic shock

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Primary coronary angioplasty (PCA) of unprotected left main coronary artery (LM) in patients (pts) with cardiogenic shock (CS) is a high-risk procedure, carrying a high morbi-mortality.

Accordingly we aimed to assess the prevalence, clinical presentation, therapeutic workload and in-hospital and long-term prognosis of pts presenting with CS due to TIMI flow 0-1 LM thrombosis.

Over a 6-years period, and out of a prospective cath-lab database of 6062 files, 17 cases of CS secondary to LM thrombosis were identified and confirmed by reanalysis of angiograms. Therapeutic management and in-hospital outcome were obtained from medical files and prospective follow-up was obtained.

The study population consisted in 13 men (76%) with a mean age of 64±16 years, corresponding to a prevalence of 0.28 % of pts proposed for coronary procedure. Clinical presentation was an ACS with and without persistent ST-elevation in 11 (65%) and 6 cases (35%) respectively. Five patients (29%) received pre-hospital thrombolysis, which failed to achieved reperfusion in all cases. Twelve patients (71%) undergone mechanical support (intra-aortic balloon pumping alone in 55%, extracorporeal life support alone in 5%, and both in 45%). The majority of PCA were performed with bare metal stent (n=14, 82%), under GPIIb/IIIa antagonists in 8 cases, and instrumental thrombectomy in 3 cases. In-hospital death occurred in 5 pts (29%). At mean follow-up of 23 months (100% completed) survival rate was 53% for entire cohort and 75% among discharged pts. Most patients were in NYHA class I (7/9), with averaged left ventricular ejection fraction of 50±17%. One pts was implanted with a Thoratec device and is awaiting heart transplantation, and one is in terminal heart failure.

LM occlusion with CS has a very high mortality rate. However, PCA in such setting with use of aggressive mechanical life support carries an acceptable level of major adverse coronary event at medium and long-term prognosis.

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Patients with recent history of ACS: frequency and characteristics of symptomatic and asymptomatic PAD in a French office based study (CALIPSO)

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Background: In ACS patients, presence of a peripheral arterial disease (PAD) or a low ankle brachial index (ABI) is associated with a higher CV risk in either symptomatic or asymptomatic PAD patients than ACS patients without PAD.

Objective: To determine the frequency and describe symptomatic and asymptomatic PAD patients, diagnosed by clinical examination and ABI measurement, in French population with recent history of ACS.

Methods: A 2-stage observational survey was conducted by 422 office-based cardiologists: 1) a registry part to provide a nationally representative overview and to estimate the prevalence of PAD and proportion of normal or low ABI in the overall.

2) a detailed part to assess and compare patients issued from registry with symptomatic or asymptomatic PAD and without PAD.

Results: 374 office based cardiologists recorded in the registry 2030 patients with a recent history of ACS and selected 1135 patients for the detailed part of the study.

Main characteristics of the registry patients were: mean age 66 years, 75% male, 30.3% STEMI, 22.7% NSTEMI and 47.1% UA. The prevalence of PAD in the registry population was 35.9% and between them 401 (55.1%) were symptomatic: intermittent claudication (321), history of angioplasty or bypass (221), amputations (12). Mean value of ABI measurement in the registry was 0.93 CI [0.92-0.94] with 32.3% less than 0.9.

In the detailed part of the study, the mean age was 65.7 years and 77.7% of patients were male. ACS characteristics: STEMI 32.1%, NSTEMI 22.4% and UA 45.5%. 624 patients were selected without PAD and 511 with PAD. Within these patients, 55.4% were symptomatic: intermittent claudication (20.3%), had a history of angioplasty or bypass (12.6%), or amputations (0.4%). Mean value of ABI for 1131 patients in the detailed study was 0.9 [0.89-0.91] and 42% had a low ABI (<0.9).

Conclusions: PAD is highly prevalent (35.9%) in patients with recent history of ACS and almost one half of these patients are asymptomatic.